

DDI-1929-74

JUN 17 1974

John S. Warner, Esquire
General Counsel
Central Intelligence Agency
McLean, Virginia 20505

Dear Mr. Warner:

The Antitrust Division is currently conducting an investigation of possible violations of the antitrust laws by firms engaged in international oil operations. The suspected activity may involve collusive arrangements to restrict overseas oil production and shipments to the United States, to boycott or harass would-be purchasers of foreign oil for importation into the United States, and to seek crude oil buy-back agreements with the OPEC nations so as to restrict access to oil supplies by competing firms.

It has come to our attention that facts and materials relating to the above-listed activities are in the possession of the Central Intelligence Agency. We would like the opportunity to confer with CIA personnel having a familiarity with international oil matters and to review documentary materials that may shed light on the activities under inquiry.

We surmise that at least some of the documents in your possession which relate to our area of interest may be classified. It is our determination that access to these documents is necessary for the duties of the Antitrust Division staff members assigned to the subject investigation. These persons have a "need to know" and

are cleared to have access to and for handling of classified matter.

Any questions concerning this request and arrangements for implementing interviews and document inspection can be addressed to Rodney O. Thorson, an attorney in the Trial Section, at 739-2475 or code 187-2475.

Your cooperation in this matter will be greatly appreciated.

Sincerely yours,

THOMAS E. KAUPER
Assistant Attorney General
Antitrust Division